HOW CAN YOU TELL YOUR FRIEND HAS BEEN USING HASHISH?

- ✓ seem dizzy and have trouble walking;
- ✓ seem silly and giggly for no reason;
- ✓ have very red, bloodshot eyes; have a hard time remembering things that just happened.

SO WHAT'S IN HASHISH THAT MAKES YOU FEEL FUNNY?

THC - delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol is found in the plant's resin. Most hashish contains around 8% THC. Some can contain much high concentrations and can be extremely dangerous.

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HASHISH



J.P. Sousa October, 2006

HASHISH

Hashish comes from *Cannabis* sativa *L*, the hemp plant, the same plant that also gives us the drug marijuana.

Hashish is a reddish-brown to black colored resinous material of the cannabis plant, stronger than marijuana, which is collected, dried, and then compressed into a variety of forms, such as balls, cakes, or cookie-like sheets. Pieces are then broken off, placed in pipes and smoked. Their effects are felt within minutes, reach their peak in 10 to 30 minutes, and may linger for two or three hours.

Low doses may involve an artificial sense of well-being and a dreamy state of relaxation, along with more vivid senses of sight, smell, taste, and hearing.

Hashish intoxication may not be noticed by others, however; driving or other accidents may result from impaired coordination. Stronger doses cause stronger reactions. High doses may result in image distortion and hallucinations.

COMMON STREET NAMES

Some common names for hashish include: boom, chronic, gangster, hash, hash oil, hemp.

SHORT TERM EFFECTS

There are several immediate effects of hashish:

- euphoria
- slowed thinking & reaction time
- confusion
- impaired balance & coordination

LONG TERM EFFECTS

There are a number of long term consequences from hashish use:

- cough
- frequent respiratory infections
- impaired memory and learning
- increased heart rate,
- · anxiety or panic attacks
- tolerance and addiction

It is also linked to:

- lung cancer
- irregular menstrual cycles
- decreased immune system

TREATMENT

There is currently no specific treatment for hashish addiction. Scientists are trying to find a medication to assist those who wish to stop using hashish.

Many drug treatment programs are available. At West High, you can contact Michelle Turnbough our MECCA counselor, who has an office in the Guidance Office.